

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	:	Gene DiPoto
App. No.	:	10/693,250
Filed	:	October 24, 2003
For	:	METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR TREATING THE SPINE THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE
Examiner	:	Michael G. Mendoza
Group Art Unit	:	3734

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT OF JANUARY 16, 2007****Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Restriction Requirement of January 16, 2007 in the above-captioned application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.